

Amendment and Response
U.S.S.N. 09/597,179
Page 2 of 8

C2 31. (Amended) The guide wire of claim 22 further comprising a tip bonded to a distal end of the coil and comprising a polymeric material.

34. (New) The guide wire of claim 22 wherein the coil comprises a coating.

35. (New) The guide wire of claim 34 wherein the coating is lubricious.

36. (New) The guide wire of claim 34 wherein the coating is colored.

37. (New) The guide wire of claim 22 wherein the coil comprises a rectangular cross-section.

C3 38. (New) The guide wire of claim 22 wherein the coil comprises a circular cross-section.

39. (New) The guide wire of claim 22 wherein the coil comprises a multifilar wire.

40. (New) The guide wire of claim 39 wherein the multifilar wire is cross-wound.

Sub D3 41. (New) A guide wire comprising:
a core including a length and a distal portion; and
a unitary coil that surrounds a substantial portion of the length of the core and extends distal of the distal portion of the core.

42. (New) The guide wire of claim 41 wherein the coil surrounds a portion of the core near a proximal end of the core.

43. (New) The guide wire of claim 42 wherein the coil surrounds the proximal end of the core.

Amendment and Response

U.S.S.N. 09/597,179

Page 3 of 8

44. (New) The guide wire of claim 41 wherein the coil surrounds the entire length of the core.

45. (New) The guide wire of claim 41 wherein the coil extends along the length of the core from the portion of the core near a proximal end of the core to distal of the distal portion of the core.

46. (New) The guide wire of claim 41 wherein the distal portion of the core is tapered.

47. (New) The guide wire of claim 41 wherein the tip comprises a tip bonded to a distal end of the coil and comprising a polymeric material.

48. (New) The guide wire of claim 47 wherein the tip comprises a radio-opaque material.

49. (New) The guide wire of claim 41 wherein the coil comprises a pitch that varies along the length of the core.

50. (New) The guide wire of claim 41 wherein the coil comprises a coating.

51. (New) The guide wire of claim 50 wherein the coating is lubricious.

52. (New) The guide wire of claim 50 wherein the coating is colored.

53. (New) The guide wire of claim 41 wherein the coil comprises a rectangular cross-section.

54. (New) The guide wire of claim 41 wherein the coil comprises a circular cross-section.